

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (UI) BOARD MEETING

Date: March 1, 2006

Time: 10:02 A.M.

Location: 10 N. Senate Avenue, Room 301A
Indianapolis, IN 46204

PRESENT: Edmund Thais, President; Lowell Robinson, Vice-President; Sherlonda Anderson, Barry Baer (phone participant), Mo Davison, Bob Dickerson, Tom Hargrove, Brent Schoolcraft, and Sean Seyferth—Members. Also in attendance were: Ronald Stiver, Commissioner; Monty Combs, Deputy Commissioner Finance/Controller; Nicole Iaria, Director, UI Tax; Diana Gushrowski, Director, UI Integrity.

- Called to order by Board President Edmund Thais
- Quorum was present.
- One (1) guests was present—Sarah Boing, Director, IDWD UI Policy

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

- Mr. Combs noted that the Commissioner had another appointment and hoped to be available later in the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

- The minutes of the February 1, 2006 meeting were unanimously adopted on a motion by Mr. Davison, with a second by Mr. Robinson. All members present signed the official Minute Book.

NEW BUSINESS:

- At the request of the owner of Heart of the Lakes Antiques (Karen Kann), Ms. Iaria presented a P&I waiver request. After presentation of the agency's position by Ms. Iaria and discussion the Board unanimously agreed to deny the request based on a motion made by Mr. Robinson and seconded by Ms. Anderson. In addition, Ms. Iaria asked the Board if they would like to set a nominal amount under certain circumstances to bring before them (e.g., an employer recognizes their own error, corrects that error—without the agency's involvement—and the interest is less than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00). After discussion it was determined by the Board that they preferred to leave the process as it currently is.
- Mr. Stiver arrived and presented his report to the Board making mention of—
 - The status of Senate Bill 321;
 - The progress of the debit card program (In regards to the resulting postage savings from the program, Mr. Davison asked if the agency had heard back from the USDOL on the possibility of Indiana having some of those funds reallocated back to the State. Mr. Stiver noted that discussions were still ongoing, but he was cautiously optimistic.)

- The progression of the UIM project;
 - The current status of claim's appeals and adjudication cases;
 - The summer ALJ program;
 - The delinquent employer collection program. (Noting that three (3) law suits were filed February 27th. Also, when told of the new program one employer paid up, and two (2) others set-up a payment plan which will result in about \$1 million being recouped.); and,
 - Indiana's participation in FUTA reform at the federal level.
- Ms. Gushrowski updated the Board on the progress being made on the Board's *Annual* Report to the Governor. Discussion followed. Ms. Gushrowski noted that the agency hoped to forward a final draft to them by the end of the following week (March 10th).
 - Mr. Combs noted the Commissioner had touched on the employer collection efforts and he had nothing more to add.

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION: There was no topic of discussion at this time.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR: There was no topic of discussion at this time.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

REVIEW OF MEETINGS: Next meeting is April 5, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. at IDWD's Administrative Office. This will be the Board's "Annual Meeting" with election of officers.